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ABSTRACT

A study assessed the stated needs and opinions of both past and potential Building Officials Institute participants in order to incorporate these views into the planning process for future institutes. A total of 606 people connected with building inspection or related areas (general building, housing, plumbing, mechanical trades, electrical trades, architecture, design, fire fighting, housing evaluation, plan reviewing, and energy conservation) responded to a needs assessment questionnaire covering forty-seven different areas. Information was obtained on respondent's background characteristics, current working status, and usual working situation. Respondents were asked to rank the importance of eight information categories including basic information in their field and in other fields, advanced information in their own and other fields, updates in code legislation, information on building inspection department administration, specialized problems in building inspection, and treatment of energy problems. Twelve Institute session topics and six general interest topics (including public relations, budgeting, principles of supervision, consumer education, and preparing written reports) were assessed by the respondents with respect to their importance as Institute subjects. Ten questions pertaining to attendance at future conferences were also asked. (Forty-two tables are included.) (MN)

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Continuing Education and Extension

BUILDING OFFICIALS INSTITUTE
NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

For
Conferences Department

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

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August, 1980

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BUILDING OFFICIALS INSTITUTE
NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

Introduction and Summary

The study reported in these pages was initiated at the request and with the cooperation of the Advisory Board and Program Director for the Annual Institute for Building Officials sponsored by the Department of Conferences, Continuing Education and Extension at the University of Minnesota. It is designed to incorporate the stated needs and opinions of both past and potential Institute participants into the planning process for future Institutes. Although the study and this report are the responsibility of the Continuing Education and Extension, Research Department the advice and cooperation of the Advisory Board and the Conferences Program Director in developing the survey form were an integral element.

In order to reach as many past and prospective participants as possible, the survey was mailed to all individuals on the Annual Institute mailing list. After discounting those which were not deliverable because of an incorrect address as well as those who were retired, deceased or no longer working in the area of building inspection, the initial mailing included 1,121 individuals. Of these, 606 completed survey forms were finally processed, providing an overall response rate of 53.1 percent.

The majority of the respondents (65.7 percent) had attended the 24th Annual Building Officials Institute in January 1980. A larger proportion (69.3 percent) had attended more than one annual institute over the years,

the categories of numbers of annual institutes attended ranging from "one to two" to "more than ten." It follows from these details that the majority of the responses to the survey form have been made by participants with experience in one or more of the twenty-four Annual Building Offices Institutes, but also a substantial minority (30.7 percent) represents potentially new participants for the 25th Institute.

Recommendations for future Annual Institutes were elicited through a variety of questions, and the focus of this report will be on these recommendations.

Respondents can be sorted into specialty groups -- five building inspector groups and five related or supplemental classifications. Included in the building inspector group are the following: general building; housing; plumbing and gas; mechanical; electrical. Among the related specialities are: fire fighter; designer; architect; housing evaluator; plan reviewer; energy conservationist; and "other" including those specialties which were descriptive of too few respondents to list in separate classifications. In broad detail, 85 percent of the responses were received from the building official group; 15 percent from the related specialties. Details on number and proportion of responses by specialty group is shown in Table 1. Inspection of Table 1 reveals that the General Building officials account for 47.9 percent of the responses; the next largest group is the Housing Inspectors with 12.7 percent of the responses. The related specialty groups are shown in detail in Table 1, but for facility of reading and economy of space, these groups will be shown as a combined category, "Non-Inspectors", in the detail and tables which follow. As noted above, the related specialty groups account for 15 percent of all responses.

An individual respondent was determined to be in a group through his description

of the following specific items: occupational title, primary responsibility or activity, personal job, and areas of inspection. Only those individuals who clearly defined themselves in one of the specialty groups other than "General Building Inspector" were placed there. Individuals who have multiple responsibilities as do combination inspectores were placed in che "General Building Inspector" category.

TABLE 1

NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF RESPONSES BY SPECIALTY GROUP

Specialty Group	Number of Respondents	Proportion of Respondents
General Building	290	47.9
Housing	77	12.7
Plumbing and Gas	51	8.4
Mechanical	35	5.8
Electrical	61	10.1
Fire Fighter	19	3.1
Design, Architecture	19	3.1
Housing Evaluator	11	1.8
Plan Review	14	2.3
Energy Conservation	10	1.6
Other	19	3.1
Total	606	

The primary generalization from the findings of the survey on which planning of future Institutes should be based is that session topics were given clear statements of importance by each specialty group on the basis of its specialty identification. For example, Electrical Inspectors endorsed as most important the "Electrical Inspection Session."

Besides the clear support of each specialty group for sessions related to that specialty, the section dealing with Institute sessions topics also demonstrated, not suprisingly, favoritism for an "Advanced building inspection session". Again, less emphatically, but clearly favored were "Combination inspection session" and "Underground construction".

The issue to emerge most emphatically was in the section defined as "Categories of Information" and concerned the need for more sessions or more extensive sessions dealing with advanced information and/or new developments for specific specialty groups. It was raised directly through questionnaire items and reinforced through open-ended statements or implications from other items. The strongest endorsement of all of the respondents, either specialty groups or Non-Inspectors, were applied to this item. Not unrelated to this issue was a strong endorsement for updating code legislation information.

Some of the reinforcing implications drawn from other questionnaire sections came, for example, under items affecting respondents' decision to attend the 1981 Institute. Those most salient were "Relevant session topics" which received the strongest endorsement and "More general sessions for total group", i.e. those sessions having the least amount of advanced information, which emerged as least important within this section.

Some of the particular new developments and advanced information issues specified repeatedly in the open-ended section of the questionnaire included passive and active solar energy, underground construction, earth-sheltered housing, energy efficiency and woodburning devices and numerous statements regarding code legislation and review. Numerous other statements regarding specific topics or issues have already been itemized and distributed or are available from this office. Showing slightly less endorsement but nevertheless clearly favored are "Specialized problems in building inspection" and "Treatment of energy problems".

Some sessions have been contemplated dealing with non-technical skills which might be of some advantage to building officials. Among these the most enthusiastically endorsed were sessions dealing with both public relations and consumer education about building codes.

Concerning the format and logistics of the Institute, there seems to be a general consensus to keep it as it is. The most important issue regarding an individual's decision to attend is clearly "Relevant session topics". To a somewhat lesser degree, however, receiving advance notice and the scheduling of sessions on new design techniques were important.

Following the background characteristics of the respondents in the next session, the detailed description of the responses to the needs assessment survey is presented in the remaining portion of this report.

Background Characteristics and Current Working Status: The recommendations for future Annual Institutes elicited from the respondents can best be evaluated on the background characteristics and usual working statuses of the respondents which are described in this section. These include location and usual working situation as well as experience background.

The details on location of major proportion of working time by specialty category are shown in Table 2. As in all the tables in this section, the descriptive characteristics are shown for each of the specialty groups listed across the top of the table with the related specialties shown under the heading Non-Inspectors. (Additional details are available.) The row headings list the locations, for example, Urban Sites; the column headings list the specialty groups, for example, General Building.

Inspection of Table 2 reveals some variation among the specialty groups in working site location with 36.2 percent of General Building Inspectors reporting Urban Sites compared with 49.3 percent of the Housing Inspectors or with 58.8 percent of the Plumbing and Gas Inspectors. Urban areas and codes can support and require more specialized inspectors. The majority of all inspectors as shown in the column headed "Total All Specialties" report urban site or urban office locations which is consistent with state demographics. Rural and Small Town Sites are reported by a substantial minority, and therefore underline the fact that Institute planning must cover the needs of all groups as identified by the varied locations shown; the urban, rural, small towns.

(See Table 2 on the next page)

TABLE 2

LOCATION OF MAJOR PROPORTION OF WORKING TIME

Location	General Building		Housing		Plumbing and Gas		Mechanical		Electrical		Non-Inspectors		Total All Specialties	
Urban Sites	105	36.2%	38	49.3%	30	58.8%	21	59.9%	25	40.9%	28	30.4%	247	40.8%
Rural/Small Town Sites	74	25.5%	17	22.0%	9	17.6%	0	0.0%	15	24.5%	9	9.8%	124	20.5%
Urban Office-Agency	44	15.2%	10	12.9%	4	7.8%	8	22.8%	5	8.1%	34	37.0%	105	17.3%
Rural Office Agency	7	2.4%	2	2.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	3.3%	12	2.0%
Other	11	3.8%	0	0.0%	4	7.8%	1	2.8%	5	8.1%	4	4.4%	25	4.1%
Urban and Rural/ Small Town Sites	4	1.4%	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	13.1%	0	0.0%	13	2.2%
Urban Sites and Urban Office-Agency	16	5.5%	4	5.1%	1	1.9%	4	11.4%	1	1.6%	3	3.3%	29	4.8%
Rural/Small Town Sites and Rural Office-Agency	13	4.5%	4	5.1%	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	1	1.6%	1	1.1%	20	3.3%
Other Combinations	5	1.7%	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	1.0%
No Answer	11	3.8%	0	0.0%	3	5.8%	0	0.0%	1	1.6%	10	10.9%	25	4.1%
Totals	290		77		51		35		61		92		606	

Inspectors can work as individual inspectors in a single specialty area; as a team of inspectors; as combination inspectors (that is, in more than one specialty); or as Building Inspection Department Administrators. The variety of working situations reported by respondents is shown in Table 3 by number and proportion of specialty category.

Inspection of Table 3 reveals a substantial variation among the specialty groups with 70.4 percent of the Electrical Inspectors working as Individual Inspectors compared with 21.4 percent of General Building Inspectors in this category. It is clear that the more specialized inspectors, that is, the Plumbing and Gas and the Electrical, are most often working as Individual Inspectors. Approximately 36 percent of the Non-Inspectors did not answer this question which was most specific for building inspectors and not as relevant for the related specialties.

(See Table 3 on page 7)

Although there is some variation between usual working situation described in Table 3 and background of most experience shown in Table 4, the most significant finding is that many inspectors report experiences in a variety of inspecting statuses. Inspection of Table 4 showing area of most working experience reveals that 42.0 percent of General Building Inspectors report the variety of experiences. Similarly, a large proportion, 27.8 percent of all the respondents, report the varied combination of experience. Consistent with the preceding descriptions, Plumbing and Gas and Electrical Inspectors overwhelmingly report experience as individual inspectors.

(See Table 4 on page 8)

TABLE 3

USUAL WORKING SITUATION

Working Situation	Building		Housing		Plumbing and Gas		Mechanical		Electrical		Non-Inspectors		Total All Specialties	
Individual Inspector	62	21.4%	33	42.8%	31	60.7%	16	45.7%	43	70.4%	15	16.3%	200	33.0%
On Team Of Inspectors	8	2.8%	6	7.7%	1	1.9%	3	8.5%	2	3.2%	8	8.7%	28	4.6%
Combination Inspector	70	24.1%	11	14.2%	5	9.8%	5	14.2%	0	0.0%	8	8.7%	99	16.3%
Varying with Job	17	5.9%	9	11.6%	1	1.9%	0	0.0%	4	6.5%	9	9.8%	40	6.6%
Building Inspection Department Administration	44	15.2%	6	7.7%	4	7.8%	1	2.8%	6	9.8%	13	14.1%	74	12.2%
Individual Inspector and Department Administration	17	5.9%	4	5.1%	1	1.9%	3	8.5%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	26	4.3%
Combination Inspector and Department Administration	39	13.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.	0.0%	2	2.2%	41	6.8%
All Other Combinations	24	8.3%	7	9.1%	7	13.7%	6	17.1%	4	6.6%	3	3.3%	51	8.4%
No Answer	9	3.1%	1	1.2%	1	1.9%	1	2.8%	2	3.2%	33	35.9%	47	7.8%
Totals	290		77		51		35		61		92		606	

TABLE 4

AREA OF MOST EXPERIENCE BACKGROUND

Area of Experience	General Building		Housing		Plumbing and Gas		Mechanical		Electrical		Non-Inspectors		Total All Specialties	
Individual Inspector	52	17.9%	32	41.5%	32	62.7%	17	48.5%	46	75.4%	17	18.5%	196	32.3%
On Team of Inspectors	7	2.4%	2	2.5%	1	1.9%	2	5.7%	2	3.2%	5	5.4%	19	3.1%
Combination Inspector	60	20.7%	10	12.9%	5	9.8%	1	2.8%	1	1.6%	6	6.5%	83	13.7%
Variety of Inspection Assignments	28	9.7%	13	16.8%	4	7.8%	0	0.0%	3	4.9%	3	3.3%	51	8.4%
Building Inspection Department Administration	9	3.1%	3	3.8%	1	1.9%	1	2.8%	2	3.2%	16	17.4%	32	5.3%
Varied Combinations of the Above	122	42.1%	15	19.5%	6	11.8%	13	37.1%	3	4.9%	9	9.8%	168	27.7%
No Answer	12	4.1%	2	2.5%	2	3.9%	1	2.8%	4	6.5%	36	39.1%	57	9.4%
Totals	290		77		51		35		61		92		606	

Report on current area of inspection by specialty group reinforces the findings in the preceding table, that is, that the Plumbing and Gas Inspectors and the Electrical Inspectors are more specialized in their respective areas than the other groups. This is clearly illustrated in Table 5 which shows current area of inspection by specialty group. The majority of General Building Inspectors, 54.8 percent, and Housing Inspectors, 57.1 percent, report the current area of inspection as Varied Combinations, as do Mechanical Inspectors, 68.6 percent, in contrast to groups like the Plumbing and Gas and Electrical inspectors. Plumbing and Gas Inspectors report inspection of plumbing by 68.6 percent; 72.1 percent of the Electrical Inspectors report electrical as their area of inspection.

The generalization most substantiated by the detail shown in Table 5 is that variety in inspection is reported by General Building Inspectors; the specialized inspectors most typically practice their specialty.

(See Table 5 on page 10)

Most respondents report currently working full time for one community. Other possible working conditions include full time for more than one community, or part-time on a fee-for-job status. The Electrical Inspectors more often report a variety of work time relationships as do also the Non-Inspectors.

Inspection of Table 6 showing current job description by specialty group reveals that Mechanical Inspectors, 94.2 percent, and Plumbing and Gas Inspectors, 82.3 percent, most characteristically work full time in one community.

(See Table 6 on page 11)

TABLE 5

CURRENT AREA OF INSPECTION

Area of Inspection	General Building		Housing		Plumbing and Gas		Mechanical		Electrical		Non-Inspectors		Total All Specialties	
Building - New Construction	23	7.9%	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	2	5.7%	0	0.0%	7	7.6%	33	5.5%
Building - Existing Buildings	0	0.0%	7	9.0%	1	1.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	7.6%	15	2.5%
Plumbing	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	35	68.6%	4	11.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	39	6.4%
Electrical	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	44	72.1%	0	0.0%	45	7.4%
Residential Housing	0	0.0%	20	25.9%	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	0	0.0%	3	3.3%	24	4.0%
All of the Above (Except Electrical)	92	31.7%	3	3.8%	7	13.7%	4	11.4%	0	0.0%	2	2.2%	108	17.8%
Varied Other Combinations of the Above	159	54.8%	45	57.1%	6	11.8%	24	68.6%	15	24.6%	36	39.1%	284	46.9%
No Answer	15	5.2%	2	2.5%	2	3.9%	0	0.0%	2	3.2%	37	40.2%	58	9.6%
Totals	290		77		51		35		61		92		606	

TABLE 6

CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION

Current Job Description	General Building		Housing		Plumbing and Gas		Mechanical		Electrical		Non-Inspectors		Total All Specialties	
Full-time Employee of One Community	193	66.6%	55	71.4%	42	82.3%	33	94.2%	27	44.2%	44	47.8%	394	65.0%
Full-time Employee of More Than One Community	28	9.7%	10	12.9%	1	1.9%	0	0.0%	11	18.0%	6	6.5%	56	9.2%
Part-Time on a Fee for Job Basis	35	12.1%	4	5.1%	3	5.8%	1	2.8%	5	8.1%	7	7.6%	55	9.1%
Other	27	9.3%	7	9.0%	3	5.8%	1	2.8%	16	26.2%	25	27.2%	79	13.0%
No Answer	7	2.4%	1	1.2%	2	3.9%	0	0.0%	2	3.2%	10	10.9%	22	3.6%
Totals	290		77		51		35		61		92		606	

FUTURE INSTITUTES

Information relevant to planning future institutes and assessment of the potential for attendance by the respondents were elicited by questions on important categories of information, categories of session topics, and organization and location of the institutes. To facilitate the presentation of the responses, the summary descriptions in this section will be related to a grouping of tables relevant to the discussion.

Information Categories:

The first grouping of Tables 7 through 14 covers information categories. The statement preceding this group of items was:

> Please indicate how important the following categories of information would be to you in your specific occupational area (if they were made available in a future institute).

The individual categories with the respective Table number and category statements in the information grouping is as follows:

Table 7...Basic information in your field
Table 8...Advanced information and/or new development in your field
Table 9...Basic information in other fields
Table 10..Advanced information and/or new developments in other fields
Table 11..Update in code legislation
Table 12..Information on building inspection department administration
Table 13..Specialized problems in building inspection
Table 14..Treatment of energy problems

Respondents were asked to rank items as Very Important, Somewhat Important or Not Important and these rankings are shown by specialty groups. In addition, comparison is made in each table between the specialty inspectors as a group and the Non-Inspectors as a group.

Table 7: Basic information in your field. Inspection of Table 7 shows the ranking of importance of this item by specialty group and by Non-Inspectors. Approximately similar proportions of two inspector specialty groups rank this item as Very Important. These are: Housing -- 46.8 percent; Electrical -- 47.5 percent. Lower proportions of the remaining specialty groups rank this item as Very Important, as follows: General Building -- 32.8 percent; Plumbing and Gas -- 27.5 percent; Mechanical -- 31.4 percent.

Further inspection of Table 7 reveals that for each of the specialty groups the majority endorses basic information in the specialty field as either Very or Somewhat Important with a combined proportion of 58.9 percent for Plumbing and Gas Inspectors to 81.9 percent of Housing Inspectors.

For summary comparison purposes, the responses of the specialty inspectors with the Non-Inspectors is shown in the last two rows on Table 7. Grouped in this fashion the difference of five percent in the Not Important and No Answer categories and a smaller difference in proportions endorsing this item as either Very or Somewhat Important supports a consensus judgment that more than 70 percent of each group of participants endorses this item on basic information in the individual's fields as more important rather than Not Important. (See Table 7 on page 14.)

Table 8: Advanced information and/or new developments in your field. This item is endorsed unambiguously as Very Important by all of the inspector and non-inspector groups as reflected by 83.1 percent of General Building; and 85.7 percent of Mechanical; 78.4 percent of Plumbing and Gas; 75.3 percent of Housing; and 70.4 percent of Electrical.

TABLE 7

BASIC INFORMATION IN YOUR FIELD

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	95	32.8%	113	39.0%	57	19.7%	25	8.6%	290	47.9%
Housing	36	46.8%	27	35.1%	10	13.0%	4	5.2%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	14	27.5%	16	31.4%	13	25.5%	8	15.7%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	11	31.4%	12	34.3%	8	22.9%	4	11.4%	35	5.8%
Electrical	29	47.5%	15	24.6%	9	14.8%	8	13.1%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	31	33.7%	36	39.1%	12	13.0%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	216	35.6%	219	36.1%	109	18.0%	62	10.2%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	185	36.0%	183	35.6%	97	18.9%	49	9.5%	514	84.8
Non-Inspectors	31	33.7%	36	39.1%	12	13.0%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%

TABLE 8

ADVANCED INFORMATION AND/OR NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN YOUR FIELD

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	241	83.1%	33	11.4%	2	0.7%	14	4.8%	290	47.9%
Housing	58	75.3%	13	16.9%	2	2.6%	4	5.2%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	40	78.4%	3	5.8%	3	5.8%	5	9.8%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	30	85.7%	3	8.5%	0	0.0%	2	5.7%	35	5.8%
Electrical	43	70.4%	10	16.3%	1	1.6%	7	11.4%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	65	70.7%	12	13.0%	3	3.3%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	477	78.7%	74	12.2%	11	1.8%	44	7.3%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	412	80.2%	62	12.1%	8	1.6%	32	6.2%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	65	70.7%	12	13.0%	3	3.3%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%

Non-Inspectors also indicate this item as Very Important by 70.7 percent and Somewhat Important by 13.0 percent. Comparative summary for the specialty groups combined shows 80.2 percent endorsing Very Important and 12.1 percent as Somewhat Important as shown in the last two rows in Table 8. (See Table 8 on page 14).

Table 9: Basic information in other fields. Relatively few inspectors rank basic information in other fields as Very Important but in four of the five specialty groups, the majority endorse this as Somewhat Important. For inspection of Table 9, the proportions are 61.0 percent of General Building; 61.0 percent of Housing; 59.9 percent of Mechanical; and 52.4 percent of Electrical. Slightly less than half (49.0 percent) of Plumbing and Gas endorse this item as Somewhat Important. A substantial proportion of the Electrical, 27.8 percent, did not answer this question.

Comparison of responses on this item of the two groups, the specialty group and the Non-Inspectors, shows a similar pattern of ranking on this item with Somewhat Important endorsed by substantial majorities and Very Important by relatively few with 13.2 percent of the Specialty group and 9.8 percent of the Non-Inspectors. (See Table 9 on page 16).

Table 10: Advanced information and/or new developments in other fields. Ranking responses to this item are more varied among the specialty groups with larger proportions endorsing the Somewhat Important than the Very Important and with some differences in each of the rankings.

Inspection of Table 10 under the Very Important ranking shows 29.0 percent of General Building; 15.5 percent of Housing; 15.6 percent of Plumbing and Gas; 14.2 percent of Mechanical; and 3.2 percent of Electrical.

TABLE 9

BASIC INFORMATION IN OTHER FIELDS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	45	15.5%	177	61.0%	40	13.8%	28	9.7%	290	47.9%
Housing	13	16.8%	47	61.0%	12	15.5%	5	6.4%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	6	11.7%	25	49.0%	10	19.6%	10	19.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	4	11.4%	21	59.9%	6	17.1%	4	11.4%	35	5.8%
Electrical	0	0.0%	32	52.4%	12	19.6%	17	27.8%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	9	9.8%	57	62.0%	11	12.0%	15	16.3%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	77	12.7%	359	59.2%	91	15.0%	79	13.0%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	68	13.2%	302	58.8%	80	15.6%	64	12.5%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	9	9.8%	57	62.0%	11	12.0%	15	16.3%	92	15.2%

TABLE 10

ADVANCED INFORMATION AND/OR NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER FIELDS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	84	29.0%	135	46.6%	43	14.8%	28	9.7%	290	47.9%
Housing	12	15.5%	37	48.0%	19	24.6%	9	11.6%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	8	15.6%	20	39.2%	13	25.4%	10	19.6	51	8.4%
Mechanical	5	14.2%	18	51.4%	7	20.0%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	2	3.2%	25	40.9%	15	24.5%	19	31.1%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	24	26.1%	34	37.0%	19	20.7%	15	16.3%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	135	22.3%	269	44.4%	116	19.1%	86	14.2%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	111	21.6%	235	45.7%	97	18.9%	71	13.8%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	24	26.1%	34	37.0%	19	20.7%	15	16.3%	92	15.2%

Ony the Mechanical show a majority, 51.4 percent, agreeing on Somewhat Important. There is some agreement among three out of the five specialty groups on Not Important with approximately 25.0 percent of Housing, Plumbing and Gas and Electrical indicating this ranking. Twenty percent of the Mechanical and 14.9 percent of the General Building endorse this item as Not Important. The variation on No Answer to this item ranges from 31.1 percent of the Electrical to 9.7 percent of the General Building Inspectors.

The differences in ranking between the specialty groups combined and the Non-Inspectors are narrower on the Very Important ranking than the differences among the individual specialty groups. The comparison between combined specialty groups and Non-Inspectors is shown at the bottom of Table 10. (See Table 10 on page 16).

Table 11: Update in code legislation. A majority of each specialty group endorses update in code legislation as Very Important with the proportions ranging from 57.3 percent of the Electrical to 63.1 percent of the General Building Inspectors. Some differences among the groups are recorded as Somewhat Important with 25.9 percent of the General Building to 19.6 percent of Plumbing and Gas Inspectors.

Comparision of each of the groups, that is the specialty groups of inspectors and the Non-Inspectors show a higher proportion, 65.2 percent of the Non-Inspectors and 60.1 percent of the specialty groups endorsing this item as Very Important. Overall, however, each of the groups endorses this item as Important when the second category of "Somewhat" is added to the first of "Very". Overwhelmingly, information on up-dated code legislation is important for all respondents. (See Table 11 on page 18).

TABLE 11

UPDATE IN CODE LEGISLATION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	183	63.1%	75	25.9%	13	4.5%	19	6.6%	290	47.9%
Housing	37	48.0%	31	40.2%	6	7.7%	3	3.8%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	32	62.7%	10	19.6%	3	5.8%	6	11.7%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	22	62.8%	9	25.7%	2	5.7%	2	5.7%	35	5.8%
Electrical	35	57.3%	15	24.5%	2	3.2%	9	14.7%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	60	65.2%	19	20.7%	2	2.2%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	369	60.9%	159	26.2%	28	4.6%	50	8.3%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	309	60.1%	140	27.2%	26	5.1%	39	7.6%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	60	65.2%	19	20.7%	2	2.2%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%

TABLE 12

INFORMATION ON BUILDING DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	82	28.3%	148	51.0%	32	11.0%	28	9.7%	290	47.9%
Housing	10	12.9%	33	42.8%	26	33.7%	8	10.3%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	5	9.8%	17	33.3%	20	39.2%	9	17.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	6	17.1%	14	40.0%	11	31.4%	4	11.4%	35	5.8%
Electrical	6	9.8%	24	39.3%	14	22.9%	17	27.8%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	21	22.8%	25	27.2%	33	35.9%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	130	21.5%	261	43.1%	136	22.4%	79	13.0%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	109	21.2%	236	45.9%	103	20.0%	66	12.8%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	21	22.8%	25	27.2%	33	35.9%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%

Table 12: Information on building department administration. There is a wide difference in proportions of respondents endorsing this item as either Very or Somewhat Important with the General Building Inspectors recording the largest propo of endorsement and the Plumbing and Gas Inspectors the lowest. For le, combining the Very Important with Somewhat Important, the proportions are: General Building Inspectors, 79.3 percent, and Plumbing and Gas, 43.1 percent. There may be more General Building Inspectors carrying Department Administration responsibilities among the respondents. (See Table 12 on page 18).

Table 13: Specialized problems in building inspection. There is wide variation in proportions of each specialty group endorsing this item as Very Important -- from 63.8 percent of the General Building Inspectors to 13.1 percent of the Electrical Inspectors. The difference is approximately as wide if the two rankings, Very Important and Somewhat Important are combined, with 89.3 percent of the General Building Inspectors and 47.3 percent of the Electrical Inspectors reporting this endorsement.

Although the detail is not shown in Table 13, there is also a wide variation among the Non-Inspector groups in the endorsement of the rankings of the importance of information and specialized problems. Plan Review, Energy Conservation and Fire Fighters rank this item as Very Important compared with Designers and Architects.

Comparison of the combined groups, the specialty groups and the Non-Inspectors, on the Very Important ranking, shows the specialty groups with 50.4 percent and the Non-Inspectors with 42.4 percent. (See Table 13 on page 20).

TABLE 13

SPECIALIZED PROBLEMS IN BUILDING INSPECTION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	185	63.8%	77	26.6%	10	3.5%	18	6.2%	290	47.9%
Housing	33	42.8%	32	41.5%	5	6.4%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	17	33.3%	16	31.3%	10	19.6%	8	15.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	16	45.7%	11	31.4%	4	11.4%	4	11.4%	35	5.8%
Electrical	8	13.1%	27	44.2%	10	16.3%	16	26.2%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	39	42.4%	27	29.4%	13	14.1%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	298	49.2%	190	31.4%	52	8.6%	66	10.9%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	259	50.4%	163	31.7%	39	7.6%	53	10.3%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	39	42.4%	27	29.4%	13	14.1%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%

TABLE 14

TREATMENT OF ENERY PROBLEMS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	150	51.7%	112	38.6%	12	4.1%	16	5.5%	290	47.9%
Housing	44	57.1%	24	31.1%	3	3.8%	6	7.7%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	20	39.2%	17	33.3%	9	17.6%	5	9.8%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	22	62.8%	11	31.4%	1	2.8%	1	2.8%	35	5.8%
Electrical	21	34.4%	22	36.0%	5	8.1%	13	21.3%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	40	43.5%	31	33.7%	7	7.6%	14	15.2%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	297	49.0%	217	35.8%	37	6.1%	55	9.1%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	257	50.0%	186	36.2%	30	5.8%	41	8.0%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	40	43.5%	31	33.7%	7	7.6%	14	15.2%	92	15.2%

Table 14: Treatment of energy problems. The Mechanical Inspectors with 62.8 percent record the largest proportion endorsing information about energy problems as Very Important compared with 34.4 percent of the Electrical Inspectors and 39.2 percent of the Plumbing and Gas Inspectors. The pattern of rankings remains the same even with the combination of the two rankings of Very Important and Somewhat Important.

Although the details are not shown in Table 14, and the number of respondents in each of the Non-Inspector groups is small, clearly the Energy-Conservation group with 90 percent expresses most interest in this information area. (See Table 14 on page 22).

INSTITUTE SESSION TOPICS

The Annual Institutes include concurrently running sessions programmed to cover the topics of interest and relevance to the participants. A number of questions were written to identify the topics of current interest for the 25th Annual Institute. There is a pattern in the responses shown in Tables 15 through 26. The specialty group endorsement follows that group's specialty. For example, the Housing Inspectors most characteristically endorse housing as Very Important topic. Similarly the Mechanical Inspectors endorse the mechanical topic.

The statement preceding this group of items was:

> Please indicate how important the following Institute sessions topics would be.

The individual categories with the respective Table number and category statements in the information grouping is as follows:

Table 15..Basic building inspection session
Table 16..Housing inspection session
Table 17..Mechanical session
Table 18..Plumbing inspection session
Table 19..Electrical inspection session
Table 20..Advanced building inspection session
Table 21..Combination inspection session
Table 22..Building code design parameters for architects
Table 23..High-rise design
Table 24..Fire suppression
Table 25..Underground construction
Table 26..Atrium construction

Table 15: Basic building inspection session. This topic does not receive a majority endorsement as Very Important, the largest proportion being the Housing Inspectors with 42.8 percent. If the two categories, Very and Somewhat Important, are combined, there is endorsement of this topic by substantial majorities of General Building Inspectors, 69.7 percent, and Housing Inspectors, 80.4 percent. Approximately equal proportions of Plumbing and Gas Inspectors with 56.8 percent and Mechanical with 57.1 perceht also endorse this topic. Less than half, 39.3 percent, of the Electrical Inspectors indicate this session topic as important.

The responses of each of the groups combined, that is, the specialty groups and the Non-Inspectors, seem to endorse this topic and cloak the differences among the specialty groups shown in Table 15. (See Table 15 on page 23).

Table 16: Housing inspection session. Inspection of Table 16 reveals the patterning of specialty group endorsing its specialty as a Very Important interest as illustrated by the 75.3 percent of the Housing Inspectors' ranking of this session topic. The contrast is the 23.8 percent of the General Building Inspectors; 13.7 percent of the Plumbing and Gas Inspectors;

TABLE 15

BASIC BUILDING INSPECTION SESSION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	93	32.1%	109	37.6%	67	23.1%	21	7.2%	290	47.9%
Housing	33	42.8%	29	37.6%	8	10.3%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	12	23.5%	17	33.3%	12	23.5%	10	19.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	4	11.4%	16	45.7%	11	31.4%	4	11.4%	35	5.8%
Electrical	3	4.9%	21	34.4%	15	24.5%	22	36.0%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	31	33.7%	32	34.8%	18	19.6%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	176	29.0%	224	37.0%	131	21.6%	75	12.4%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	145	28.2%	192	37.4%	113	22.0%	64	12.5%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	31	33.7%	32	34.8%	18	19.6%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%

TABLE 16

HOUSING INSPECTION SESSION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	69	23.8%	123	42.4%	73	25.2%	25	8.6%	290	47.9%
Housing	58	75.3%	11	14.2%	3	3.8%	5	6.4%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	7	13.7%	11	21.5%	24	47.0%	9	17.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	3	8.5%	12	34.2%	15	42.8%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	0	0.0%	13	21.3%	25	40.9%	23	37.7%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	32	34.8%	22	23.9%	28	30.4%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	169	27.9%	192	31.7%	168	27.7%	77	12.7%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	137	26.7%	170	33.1%	140	27.2%	67	13.0%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	32	34.8%	22	23.9%	28	30.4%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%

and the 8.5 percent of the Mechanical Inspectors indicating this topic as Very Important. Electrical and Mechanical Inspectors rank this topic as Not Important by 40.9 percent and 42.8 percent respectively. The 37.7 percent of Electrical Inspectors with No Answers to this item underlines the disinterest of this group in Housing Inspection. (See Table 16 on page 23).

Table 17: Mechanical Session. The mechanical session topic is endorsed as Very Important by 94.2 percent of the Mechanical Inspectors, and by 56.8% percent of the Plumbing and Gas Inspectors. If the rankings of Very and Somewhat Important are combined, it is clear that this session topic is of interest to all specialty groups but the Electrical Inspectors. (See Table 17 on page 25).

Table 18: Plumbing inspection session. Plumbing and Gas Inspectors endorse the plumbing inspection session with 78.4 percent ranking this Very Important and 13.7 percent Somewhat Important. The majority of all inspector specialty groups except the Electrical rank this session as either Very or Somewhat Important with the following proportions: General Building -- 83.5 percent; Housing -- 81.7 percent; Plumbing and Gas -- 92.1 percent; Mechanical -- 71.3 percent. The comparative proportion for the Electrical Inspectors is 22.8 percent, and affirms that participants select topics of particular relevance to them.

The variation in session topic interest is affirmed when the comparison is made between the combined inspector specialty groups and the combined Non-Inspector groups as shown in the last two lines in Table 18 with 42.2 percent of the specialty groups and 17.4 percent of the Non-Inspector group ranking the item as Very Important. (See Table 18 on page 25).

TABLE 17

MECHANICAL SESSION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	129	44.5%	105	36.2%	27	9.3%	29	10.0%	290	47.9%
Housing	26	33.7%	34	44.1%	5	6.4%	12	15.5%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	29	56.8%	10	19.6%	6	11.7%	6	11.7%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	33	94.2%	1	2.8%	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	35	5.8%
Electrical	2	3.2%	16	26.2%	22	36.0%	21	34.4%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	20	21.7%	40	43.5%	20	21.7%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	239	39.4%	206	34.0%	80	13.2%	81	13.4%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	219	42.6%	166	32.3%	60	11.7%	69	13.4%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	20	21.7%	40	43.5%	20	21.7%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%

TABLE 18

PLUMBING INSPECTION SESSION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	133	45.9%	109	37.6%	27	9.3%	21	7.2%	290	47.9%
Housing	30	38.9%	33	42.8%	4	5.1%	10	12.9%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	40	78.4%	7	13.7%	2	3.9%	2	3.9%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	12	34.2%	13	37.1%	4	11.4%	6	17.1%	35	5.8%
Electrical	2	3.2%	12	19.6%	25	40.9%	22	36.0%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	16	17.4%	38	41.3%	27	29.4%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	233	38.5%	212	35.0%	89	14.7%	72	11.9%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	217	42.2%	174	33.9%	62	12.1%	61	11.9%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	16	17.4%	38	41.3%	27	29.4%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%

Table 19: Electrical inspection session. The electrical inspection topic is of primary interest for 90.1 percent of Electrical Inspectors who rank this as Very Important. By comparison, 33.7 percent of the Housing Inspectors rank this topic as Very Important. The majority of the other specialty groups rank this session as Not Important or do not rank this item by not answering.

Inspection of Table 19 for the detail of each of the groups and the summary detail on the comparison of the combined groups shown in the last two lines of the table affirm the fact that the electrical inspection session has primary interest for Electrical Inspectors and some interest for Housing Inspectors but is of relatively little interest to the remaining groups. (See Table 19 on page 27).

Table 20: Advanced building inspection session. Advanced building inspection is Very Important for 75.2 percent of the Building Inspectors compared with 37.1 percent of the Mechanical Inspectors and only 1.6 percent of the Electrical Inspectors. For planning purposes, it is useful to make the combined rankings of Very and Somewhat Important which shows 91.8 percent of General Building Inspectors; 66.3 percent of Non-Inspectors; 63.5 percent of Housing Inspectors and 62.8 percent of Mechanical Inspectors. The more specialized groups, Mechanical and Electrical Inspectors show the majority of responses indicating Not Important or No Answer. (See Table 20 and page 27).

Table 21: Combination inspection session. Compared with the other respondent groups, a larger proportion, 55.5 percent, of General Building Inspectors ranks this session topic as Very Important. By contrast, 9.8 percent of Electrical Inspectors and 13.7 percent of Mechanical Inspectors indicate an interest in this topic. The patterning of ranking is maintained among the groups even when the two categories,

TABLE 19

ELECTRICAL INSPECTION SESSION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	36	12.4%	93	32.1%	111	38.3%	50	17.2%	290	47.9%
Housing	26	33.7%	30	38.9%	10	12.9%	11	14.2%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	7	13.7%	10	19.6%	24	47.0%	10	19.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	4	11.4%	7	20.0%	17	48.5%	7	20.0%	35	5.8%
Electrical	55	90.1%	3	4.9%	0	0.0%	3	4.9%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	13	14.1%	37	40.2%	32	34.8%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	141	23.3%	180	29.7%	194	32.0%	91	15.0%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	128	24.9%	143	27.8%	162	31.5%	81	15.8%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	13	14.1%	37	40.2%	32	34.8%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%

TABLE 20

ADVANCED BUILDING INSPECTION SESSION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	218	75.2%	48	16.6%	7	2.4%	17	5.9%	290	47.9%
Housing	21	27.2%	28	36.3%	19	24.6%	9	11.6%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	13	25.4%	9	17.6%	20	39.2%	9	17.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	13	37.1%	9	25.7%	8	22.8%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	1	1.6%	22	36.0%	16	26.2%	22	36.0%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	35	38.0%	26	28.3%	18	19.6%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	301	49.7%	142	23.4%	88	14.5%	75	12.4%	606	84.8%
Inspectors Only	266	51.8%	116	22.6%	70	13.6%	62	12.1%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	35	38.0%	26	28.3%	18	19.6%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%

Very and Somewhat Important, are combined. (See Table 21 on page 29).

Table 22: Building code design parameters for architects. Responses in the ranking of this item clearly reflect the interests of the Designer-Architect group of respondents with a 94.7 percent indicating Very Important. (This detail is included in the grouped Non-Inspector responses in Table 22). Other groups among the Non-Inspectors also express more interest in this topic than any of the specialty groups of inspectors. This pattern is reflected in the summary of ranking responses among the Non-Inspectors compared with the specialty groups shown in the last two rows in Table 22.

The majority in each of the specialty groups ranks this item as either Not Important or No Answer. (See Table 22 on page 29).

Table 23: High-rise design. Neither any of the specialty nor the Non-Inspector groups express strong interest in this session topic. A bare majority, 52.7 percent, of the General Building Inspectors rank this either Very or Somewhat Important. The majority of the other specialty groups and Non-Inspector groups rank the item Not Important or No Answer. (See Table 23 on page 30).

Table 24: Fire suppression. Fire supression has greatest interest for the Fire Fighters, 94.7 percent who indicate Very Important. (Detail not shown in Table 24.)

Among the specialty groups, 47.0 percent of Plumbing and Gas Inspectors indicate this topic as Very Important. Further inspection of Table 24 reveals that the majority of each of the specialty groups endorses this session topic as either Very or Somewhat Important. Clearly, this is a topic of interest.

Comparison of patterns of responses for each of the combined groups, that is,

TABLE 21

COMBINATION INSPECTION SESSION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	161	55.5%	86	29.7%	19	6.6%	24	8.3%	290	47.9%
Housing	27	35.0%	31	40.2%	15	19.4%	4	5.1%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	7	13.7%	23	45.0%	13	25.4%	8	15.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	9	25.7%	16	45.7%	7	20.0%	3	8.5%	35	5.8%
Electrical	6	9.8%	23	37.7%	13	21.3%	19	31.1%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	28	30.4%	37	40.2%	15	16.3%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	238	39.3%	216	35.6%	82	13.5%	70	11.6%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	210	40.9%	179	34.8%	67	13.0%	58	11.3%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	28	30.4%	37	40.2%	15	16.3%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%

TABLE 22

BUILDING CODE DESIGN PARAMETERS FOR ARCHITECTS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	69	23.8%	106	36.6%	80	27.6%	35	12.1%	290	47.9%
Housing	6	7.7%	13	16.8%	48	62.3%	10	12.9%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	4	7.8%	14	27.4%	21	41.1%	12	23.5%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	4	11.4%	8	22.8%	19	54.2%	4	11.4%	35	5.8%
Electrical	3	4.9%	14	22.9%	22	36.0%	22	36.0%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	38	41.3%	19	20.7%	22	23.9%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	124	20.5%	174	28.7%	212	35.0%	96	15.8%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	86	16.7%	155	30.2%	190	37.0%	83	16.2%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	38	41.3%	19	20.7%	22	23.9%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%

TABLE 23

HIGH-RISE DESIGN

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	50	17.2%	103	35.5%	105	36.2%	32	11.0%	290	47.9%
Housing	4	5.1%	8	10.3%	56	72.7%	9	11.6%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	7	13.7%	12	23.5%	21	41.1%	11	21.5%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	7	20.0%	7	20.0%	15	42.8%	6	17.1%	35	5.8%
Electrical	4	6.5%	12	19.6%	24	39.3%	21	34.4%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	20	21.7%	29	31.5%	30	32.6%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	92	15.2%	171	28.2%	251	41.4%	92	15.2%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	72	14.0%	142	27.6%	221	43.0%	79	15.4%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	20	21.7%	29	31.5%	30	32.6%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%

TABLE 24

FIRE SUPPRESSION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	118	40.7%	107	36.9%	37	12.8%	28	9.7%	290	47.9%
Housing	18	23.3%	31	40.2%	20	25.9%	8	10.3%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	24	47.0%	10	19.6%	8	15.6%	9	17.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	11	31.4%	13	37.1%	6	17.1%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	12	19.6%	25	40.9%	4	6.5%	20	32.7%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	34	37.0%	33	35.9%	12	13.0%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	217	35.8%	219	36.1%	87	14.4%	83	13.7%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	183	35.6%	186	36.2%	75	14.6%	70	13.6%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	34	37.0%	33	35.9%	12	13.0%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%

the specialty inspector groups and the Non-Inspectors, reveal similarities as shown in the last two rows in Table 24. (See Table 24 on page 30).

Table 25: Underground construction. Underground construction is a relatively new field, and it is interesting to note that among all the respondent groups, the largest proportion endorsing Very Important is the 57.8 percent of the Designer-Architect Non-Inspector group. (Detail not shown in Table 25 but included in Non-Inspector grouped responses.)

Among the specialty inspector groups, 45.5 percent of the General Building Inspectors indicate this topic is Very Important. If the Very and Somewhat Important rankings are combined, the majority of all but the Electrical Inspector specialty groups rank this topic important.

Comparison of the grouped responses shown at the bottom of Table 25 reveals that approximately the same proportions rank this item as either Very or Somewhat Important. (See Table 25 on page 32).

Table 26: Atrium construction. This session topic is specialized and is of greater interest to two of the Non-Inspector groups -- the Design-Architect and the Energy-Conservation -- than any of the specialty inspector groups. (The Non-Inspector individual group detail is not shown in Table 26.)

Larger proportions of each of the specialty groups rank this item Somewhat Important than Very Important but only the General Building and the Mechanical Inspectors record a majority of rankings as Very or Somewhat Important. The remaining specialty inspector groups endorse the Not Important or No Answer by clear majorities.

TABLE 25

UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	132	45.5%	108	37.2%	28	9.7%	22	7.6%	290	47.9%
Housing	21	27.2%	25	32.4%	24	31.1%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	13	25.4%	14	27.4%	16	31.3%	8	15.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	13	37.1%	11	31.4%	7	20.0%	4	11.4%	35	5.8%
Electrical	4	6.5%	25	40.9%	10	16.3%	22	36.0%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	41	44.6%	26	28.3%	14	15.2%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	224	37.0%	209	34.5%	99	16.3%	74	12.2%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	183	35.6%	183	35.6%	85	16.5%	63	12.3%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	41	44.6%	26	28.3%	14	15.2%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%

TABLE 26

ATRIUM CONSTRUCTION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	71	24.8%	115	40.2%	62	21.6%	42	13.2%	290	47.9%
Housing	9	11.6%	23	29.8%	36	46.7%	9	11.6%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	3	5.8%	9	17.6%	26	50.9%	13	25.4%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	8	22.8%	10	28.5%	12	34.2%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	3	4.9%	17	27.8%	19	31.1%	22	36.0%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	35	38.0%	25	27.2%	20	21.7%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	129	21.3%	199	32.8%	175	28.9%	103	17.0%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	94	18.3%	174	33.9%	155	30.2%	91	17.7%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	35	38.0%	25	27.2%	20	21.7%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%

The summary of the grouped responses at the bottom of Table 26 reflects the greater interest of the Non-Inspector groups in this topic. (See Table 26 on page 32).

GENERAL INTEREST TOPICS

In order to assess the significance in topics of general interest, a pool of possible institute session topics was presented to the respondents for ranking. This group of items was presented under the statement:

> Please indicate the importance of the following Institute session topics in other than building inspection.

The general topics listed and the rankings of the respondents are shown in Tables 27 through 32:

Table 27..Public speaking/communications
Table 28..Public relations
Table 29..Budget preparation and management
Table 30..Principles of supervision
Table 31..Consumer education about building codes
Table 32..Preparing written reports

Table 27: Public speaking/communications. The majority of all the specialty and the Non-Inspector groups indicated a Very or Somewhat Important ranking of this topic. The proportions of specialty inspector groups indicating the combined Important rankings were 75.5 percent -- General Building; 72.6 -- Housing; 70.5 Plumbing and Gas; 74.2 percent -- Mechanical; and 59.0 percent -- Electrical. Interest in the communications skills is clearly affirmed.

The number of respondents in each of the Non-Inspector groups is relatively low, but it can be noted that more of the Energy-Conservation respondents ranked this session topic of communication Important than any other Non-Inspectors. (Detail is not shown in Table 27, page 34.)

Table 28: Public relations. Public relations as a session topic received

TABLE 27

PUBLIC SPEAKING/COMMUNICATIONS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	111	38.3%	108	37.2%	48	16.6%	23	7.9%	290	47.9%
Housing	24	31.1%	32	41.5%	14	18.1%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	14	27.4%	22	43.1%	11	21.5%	4	7.8%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	14	40.0%	12	34.2%	6	17.1%	3	8.5%	35	5.8%
Electrical	13	21.3%	23	37.7%	13	21.3%	12	19.6%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	29	31.5%	29	31.5%	23	25.0%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	205	33.8%	226	37.3%	115	19.0%	60	9.9%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	176	34.2%	197	38.3%	92	17.9%	49	9.5%	5.4	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	29	31.5%	29	31.5%	23	25.0%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%

TABLE 28

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	174	60.0%	76	26.2%	23	7.9%	17	5.9%	290	47.9%
Housing	36	46.7%	25	32.4%	9	11.6%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	21	41.1%	20	39.2%	5	9.8%	5	9.8%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	23	65.7%	4	11.4%	6	17.1%	2	5.7%	35	5.8%
Electrical	30	49.1%	17	27.8%	6	9.8%	8	13.1%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	32	34.8%	32	34.8%	18	19.6%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	316	52.2%	174	28.7%	67	11.1%	49	8.1%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	284	55.3%	142	27.6%	49	9.5%	39	7.6%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	32	34.8%	32	34.8%	18	19.6%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%

as Very Important by 65.7 percent of the Mechanical and 60.0 percent of the General Building Inspectors. Large majorities of all inspector groups ranked this item as Important when the rankings for Very and Somewhat are combined. Similarly, the majority of Non-Inspectors also ranked this item as either Very or Somewhat Important.

The comparison of the two groups -- the specialty and the Non-Inspectors -- shown at the bottom of Table 28 indicates interest in this session topic, although the specialty inspector groups record a higher proportion of Very and Somewhat Important. (See Table 28 on page 34).

Table 29: Budget preparation and management. Few of the specialty groups of inspectors rate this item as Very Important. Approximately 48 percent of the General Building Inspectors rank it as Somewhat Important which may be reflective of the number in this group who also carry departmental administration responsibilities. From the numbers of respondents involved, there is sufficient support for some sessions on this topic.

The patterning of ranking shown in the comparison between the combined specialty inspector groups and the Non-Inspectors in the last two rows in Table 29 is similar. (See Table 29 on page 36).

Table 30: Principles of supervision. More of the respondents rank this session topic as Somewhat Important than Very Important. It is useful to combine the two rankings to assess the potential interest. For example, combining the responses of Very with Somewhat Important, the proportions of specialty inspector groups are -- General Building -- 75.6 percent; Housing -- 56.3 percent; Plumbing and Gas -- 54.8 percent; Mechanical -- 47.0 percent; and Electrical -- 52.4 percent. There is support and expression of interest in this topic.

TABLE 29

BUDGET PREPARATION AND MANAGEMENT

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	60	20.7%	139	47.9%	61	21.0%	30	10.3%	290	47.9%
Housing	12	15.5%	25	32.4%	33	42.8%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	4	7.8%	8	15.6%	30	58.8%	9	17.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	2	5.7%	14	40.0%	14	40.0%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	2	3.2%	14	22.9%	29	47.5%	16	26.2%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	10	10.9%	30	32.6%	39	42.4%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	90	14.9%	230	38.0%	206	34.0%	80	13.2%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	80	15.6%	200	38.9%	167	32.5%	67	13.0%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	10	10.9%	30	32.6%	39	42.4%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%

TABLE 30

PRINCIPLES OF SUPERVISION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	84	29.0%	135	46.6%	45	15.5%	26	9.0%	290	47.9%
Housing	17	22.0%	28	36.3%	25	32.4%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	10	19.6%	18	35.2%	16	31.3%	7	13.7%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	8	22.8%	12	34.2%	10	28.5%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	8	13.1%	24	39.3%	15	24.5%	14	22.9%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	15	16.3%	36	39.1%	28	30.4%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	142	23.4%	253	41.8%	139	22.9%	72	11.9%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	127	24.7%	217	42.2%	111	21.6%	59	11.5%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	15	16.3%	36	39.1%	28	30.4%	13	14.1%	92	15.2%

Among the Non-Inspectors, more of the Designer-Architect group express interest in the supervision topic than any of the other respondent groups. (The detail is included in the Non-Inspector grouped responses in Table 30.)

A larger proportion of specialty group respondents and Non-Inspectors rank this session as either Very or Somewhat Important. The summary comparison is shown in the last two rows in Table 30. (See Table 30 on page 36).

Table 31: Consumer education about building codes. Among the general session topics discussed in this section, the consumer education about building codes is ranked as important by the largest proportion of specialty group inspectors. It is useful to combine the Very with Somewhat Important to assess the amount of interest expressed, although a 53.8 percent majority of the General Building Inspectors rank this topic as Very Important. Combining the Very with Somewhat Important rankings, the proportions are -- General Building -- 87.3 percent; Housing -- 76.5 percent; Plumbing and Gas -- 76.4 percent; Mechanical -- 85.7 percent; and Electrical -- 67.2 percent.

This topic seems to be equally important for the Non-Inspector respondents as indicated by the ranking shown in the summary last two rows on the bottom of Table 31. (See Table 31 on page 38).

Table 32: Preparing written reports. Although larger proportions of specialty group inspectors rank preparing written reports as Somewhat rather than Very Important, this topic must be considered of interest to the respondents with exception of the Electrical Inspectors who more often rank the item as Not Important or do not respond to the topic ranking. The other specialty inspector groups give a combined Very and Somewhat Important ranking as follows: General

TABLE 31

CONSUMER EDUCATION ABOUT BUILDING CODES

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	156	53.8%	97	33.5%	20	6.9%	17	5.9%	290	47.9%
Housing	27	35.0%	32	41.5%	12	15.5%	6	7.7%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	20	39.2%	19	37.2%	7	13.7%	5	9.8%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	16	45.7%	14	40.0%	3	8.5%	2	5.7%	35	5.8%
Electrical	18	29.5%	23	37.7%	8	13.1%	12	19.6%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	41	44.6%	33	35.9%	10	10.9%	8	8.7%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	278	45.9%	218	36.0%	60	9.9%	50	8.3%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	237	46.1%	185	36.0%	50	9.7%	42	8.2%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	41	44.6%	33	35.9%	10	10.9%	8	8.7%	92	15.2%

TABLE 32

PREPARING WRITTEN REPORTS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	106	36.6%	127	43.8%	36	12.4%	21	7.2%	290	47.9%
Housing	17	22.0%	41	53.2%	13	16.8%	6	7.7%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	9	17.6%	26	50.9%	7	13.7%	9	17.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	9	25.7%	16	45.7%	7	20.0%	3	8.5%	35	5.8%
Electrical	11	18.0%	18	29.5%	17	27.8%	15	24.5%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	22	23.9%	40	43.5%	21	22.8%	9	9.8%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	174	28.7%	268	44.2%	101	16.7%	63	10.4%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	152	29.6%	228	44.4%	80	15.6%	54	10.5%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	22	23.9%	40	43.5%	21	22.8%	9	9.8%	92	15.2%

Building -- 80.4 percent; Housing -- 75.2 percent; Plumbing and Gas -- 68.5 percent; Mechanical -- 71.4 percent.

More of the Non-Inspectors also rank this topic as either Very or Somewhat Important as indicated in Table 32. The combined ranking for this group is 67.4 percent. (See Table 32 on page 38).

ATTENDANCE AT FUTURE INSTITUTES

Statements were written to reflect factors related to decisions to attend future Annual Institutes including organization of the sessions, location of Institutes, time factors, and released time and sources of subsidy. Although these statements were grouped in two sets, this section covers description of responses to both sets. One statement read:

> Please evaluate the importance of the following items in your decision to attend the 1981 Institute.

The individual items were ranked by the respondents, and the number and proportions of the ranking by specialty group and by Non-Inspectors is shown in the following tables:

Table 33...Convenient date
Table 34...Convenient location
Table 35...Advance notice
Table 36...Released time from job
Table 37...Relevant session topics
Table 38...Payment of Institute fee by city/town or state
Table 39...Repeated scheduling of session so more can be attended
Table 40...More general sessions for total group
Table 41...Smaller groups in each session
Table 42...Sessions scheduled on <u>new</u> design techniques

In summary of the descriptive material on these responses, it is clear that some factors are more important in determining attendance at Institutes. For example, relevant session topics is more important than more general sessions for group. This finding confirms the description of responses in the preceding pages.

Table 33: Convenient Date: Convenient date is a less important factor for Electrical and Mechanical Inspectors compared with the other specialties in determining attendance at Annual Institute. It is, however, a factor to be considered in planning future institutes since the majority of respondents in all groups note it as either Very or Somewhat Important rather than Not Important.

The patterning of responses on this item can be seen clearly from the summary listing in the last two rows shown in Table 33. (See Table 33 on page 41).

Table 34: Convenient location. Location of the Annual Institute is an important factor with 41.0 percent of the General Building Inspectors endorsing it as Very Important and 42.1 percent as Somewhat Important. Combining the two categories of Important, the overwhelming majority in each of the other groups is as follows: Housing -- 79.1 percent; Plumbing and Gas -- 72.5 percent; Mechanical -- 74.2 percent; and Electrical -- 72.1 percent. The Non-Inspectors also endorse this item as either Very or Somewhat Important 72.9 percent. (See Table 34 on page 41).

Table 35: Advance notice. This item is endorsed Very Important by 52.1 percent of the General Building Inspectors; 60.9 percent of the Non-Inspectors; and 58.4 percent of the Housing Inspectors. Clearly, the advance notice is of importance

TABLE 33

CONVENIENT DATE

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	90	31.0%	119	41.0%	57	19.7%	24	8.3%	290	47.9%
Housing	22	28.5%	29	36.3%	19	24.6%	8	10.3%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	18	35.2%	19	37.2%	10	19.6%	4	7.8%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	8	22.8%	16	45.7%	6	17.1%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	11	18.0%	27	44.2%	9	14.7%	14	22.9%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	27	29.4%	40	43.5%	15	16.3%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	176	29.0%	249	41.1%	116	19.1%	65	10.7%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	149	29.0%	209	40.7%	101	19.7%	55	10.7%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	27	29.4%	40	43.5%	15	16.3%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%

TABLE 34

CONVENIENT LOCATION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	119	41.0%	122	42.1%	29	10.0%	20	6.9%	290	47.9%
Housing	27	35.0%	34	44.1%	8	10.3%	8	10.3%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	20	39.2%	17	33.3%	10	19.6%	4	7.8%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	11	31.4%	15	42.8%	5	14.2%	4	11.4%	35	5.8%
Electrical	21	34.4%	23	37.7%	6	9.8%	11	18.0%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	26	28.3%	41	44.6%	13	14.1%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	224	37.0%	252	41.6%	71	11.7%	59	9.7%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	198	38.5%	211	41.1%	58	11.3%	47	9.1%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	26	28.3%	41	44.6%	13	14.1%	12	13.0%	92	15.2%

for the majority in each of the groups. (See Table 35 on page 43).

TABLE 36: Released time from job. There is some variation in the importance of this item with 68.5 percent of the Plumbing and Gas Inspectors endorsing this as either Very and Somewhat Important compared with 50.7 percent of the General Building Inspectors and 44.1 percent of the Electrical Inspectors. Fewer than half, 45.6 percent, of the Non-Inspectors endorse this item as Important. (See Table 36 on page 43).

Table 37: Relevant session topics. Approximately 85 percent of three of the specialty groups and the Non-Inspector group endorse this item as either Very or Somewhat Important. The specialty groups indicating the combined Important categories are: General Building -- 85.9 percent; Housing -- 85.6 percent; Mechanical -- 88.4 percent. The other proportions are: Plumbing and Gas -- 70.5 percent; and Electrical -- 63.8 percent. The Non-Inspectors, as indicated above, endorse this item by 84.8 percent. (See Table 37 on page 44).

Table 38: Payment of institute fee by city/town or state. Although of significant importance to majorities of each of the specialty groups, the item is not endorsed as important by a majority of the Non-Inspectors. The proportions for the combined rankings, Very and Somewhat Important, by the respective groups are: 69.0 percent -- General Building; 70.0 percent -- Housing; 70.5 percent -- Plumbing and Gas; 65.6 percent -- Mechanical; and 55.6 percent -- Electrical. The comparable proportion for the Non-Inspectors was 40.3 percent.

The comparison of each of the groups combined as shown in the last two lines on Table 38 illustrates the varying importance (related undoubtedly to the difference in working situation of the groups) of subsidy for attendance. The comparative

TABLE 35

ADVANCE NOTICE

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	151	52.1%	99	34.1%	15	5.2%	25	8.6%	290	47.9%
Housing	45	58.4%	23	29.8%	2	2.5%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	19	37.2%	19	37.2%	8	15.6%	5	9.8%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	11	31.4%	13	37.1%	5	14.2%	6	17.1%	35	5.8%
Electrical	27	44.2%	16	26.2%	4	6.5%	14	22.9%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	56	60.9%	25	27.2%	1	1.1%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	309	51.0%	195	32.2%	35	5.8%	67	11.1%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	253	49.2%	170	33.1%	34	6.6%	57	11.1%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	56	60.9%	25	27.2%	1	1.1%	10	10.9%	92	15.2%

TABLE 36

RELEASED TIME FROM JOB

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	86	29.7%	61	21.0%	110	37.9%	33	11.4%	290	47.9%
Housing	28	36.3%	19	24.6%	23	29.8%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	22	43.1%	9	17.6%	13	25.4%	7	13.7%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	14	40.0%	10	28.5%	6	17.1%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	15	24.5%	12	19.6%	17	27.8%	17	27.8%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	22	23.9%	20	21.7%	34	37.0%	16	17.4%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	187	30.9%	131	21.6%	203	33.5%	85	14.0%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	165	32.1%	111	21.6%	169	32.9%	69	13.4%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	22	23.9%	20	21.7%	34	37.0%	16	17.4%	92	15.2%

TABLE 37

RELEVANT SESSION TOPICS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	173	59.7%	76	26.2%	10	3.5%	31	10.7%	290	47.9%
Housing	48	62.3%	18	23.3%	2	2.5%	9	11.6%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	29	56.8%	7	13.7%	5	9.8%	10	19.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	19	54.2%	12	34.2%	0	0.0%	4	11.4%	35	5.8%
Electrical	29	47.5%	10	16.3%	3	4.9%	19	31.1%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	63	68.5%	15	16.3%	0	0.0%	14	15.2%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	361	59.6%	138	22.8%	20	3.3%	87	14.4%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	298	58.0%	123	23.9%	20	3.9%	73	14.2%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	63	68.5%	15	16.3%	0	0.0%	14	15.2%	92	15.2%

TABLE 38

PAYMENT OF INSTITUTE FEE BY CITY/TOWN OR STATE

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	131	45.2%	69	23.8%	67	23.1%	23	7.9%	290	47.9%
Housing	38	49.3%	16	20.7%	16	20.7%	7	9.0%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	26	50.9%	10	19.6%	10	19.6%	5	9.8%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	19	54.2%	4	11.4%	7	20.0%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	27	44.2%	7	11.4%	14	22.9%	13	21.3%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	26	28.3%	11	12.0%	37	40.2%	18	19.6%	91	15.2%
Total All Responses	267	44.1%	117	19.3%	151	24.9%	71	11.7%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	241	46.9%	106	20.6%	114	22.2%	53	10.3%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	26	28.3%	11	12.0%	37	40.2%	18	19.6%	92	15.2%

proportions are 67.5 percent for the combined specialty groups and 40.3 percent for the Non-Inspectors. (See Table 38 on page 44).

Table 39: Repeated scheduling of sessions so that more could be attended. General Building Inspectors, among the specialty groups, with 37.2 percent, rank this item as Very Important, compared with 20.7 percent of the Housing and lower proportions of the other groups.

Although relatively not ranked by as large a proportion as other items, a majority of each group rank the item as either Very or Somewhat Important with the General Building and Non-Inspectors indicating the largest proportion of endorsement. The proportions for the combined categories were 75.8 percent of the General Building Inspectors and 65.2 percent of the Non-Inspectors. The remaining groups range from 58.3 percent for Housing; 56.8 percent for Plumbing and Gas; 59.9 percent for Mechanical; and 50.8 percent for Electrical. (See Table 39 on page 46).

Table 40: More general sessions for total group. In contrast to other items in this group identifying factors related to Annual Institute attendance, the majority of respondents indicate that this is Not Important or do not answer. More than half, 52.9 percent of the Plumbing and Gas and 51.4 percent of the Mechanical Inspectors say that more general sessions are Not Important.

It is useful to compare the summary of the responses shown in the last two lines on Table 40. If the two categories, Not Important and No Answer are combined, 59.6 percent of the specialty group and 66.3 percent of the Non-Inspectors indicate that this is an unimportant factor. (See Table 40 on page 46).

TABLE 39

REPEATED SCHEDULING OF SESSION SO MORE CAN BE ATTENDED

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	108	37.2%	112	38.6%	41	14.1%	29	10.0%	290	47.9%
Housing	16	20.7%	29	37.6%	22	28.5%	10	12.9%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	9	17.6%	20	39.2%	13	25.4%	9	17.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	6	17.1%	15	42.8%	7	20.0%	7	20.0%	35	5.8%
Electrical	8	13.1%	23	37.7%	11	18.0%	19	31.1%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	24	26.1%	36	39.1%	18	19.6%	14	15.2%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	171	28.2%	235	38.8%	112	18.5%	88	14.5%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	147	28.6%	199	38.7%	94	18.3%	74	14.4%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	24	26.1%	36	39.1%	18	19.6%	14	15.2%	92	15.2%

TABLE 40

MORE GENERAL SESSIONS FOR TOTAL GROUP

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	34	11.7%	90	31.0%	128	44.1%	38	13.1%	290	47.9%
Housing	8	10.3%	32	41.5%	29	37.6%	8	10.3%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	2	3.9%	13	25.4%	27	52.9%	9	17.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	1	2.8%	10	28.5%	18	51.4%	6	17.1%	35	5.8%
Electrical	3	4.9%	15	24.5%	25	40.9%	18	29.5%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	6	6.5%	25	27.2%	44	47.8%	17	18.5%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	54	8.9%	185	30.5%	271	44.7%	96	15.8%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	48	9.3%	160	31.1%	227	44.2%	79	15.4%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	6	6.5%	27	27.2%	44	47.8%	17	18.5%	92	15.2%

Table 41: Smaller groups in each session. This item is not of primary importance for any of the respondent groups, although of more interest to the General Building Inspectors than the Electrical Inspectors with the other specialty groups falling between these two extremes. The combined categories, Very and Somewhat Important, elicited the responses in the following proportions: 60.3 percent -- General Building; 57.0 percent -- Housing; 47.0 -- Plumbing and Gas; 54.2 percent -- Mechanical; 29.4 percent -- Electrical; and 52.2 percent -- Non-Inspectors.

There is no difference in response to this item between the specialty inspectors as a group and the Non-Inspectors as shown in the last two lines on Table 41. (See Table 41 on page 48).

Table 42: Sessions scheduled on new design techniques. Substantial interest is expressed in this item, particularly by the Mechanical Inspectors with 65.7 percent endorsing Very Important. General Building Inspectors also endorse this item as Very Important with 50.0 percent indicating this response.

There is some variation among the groups of respondents even when the two Important categories are combined. The range of responses is 88.5 percent for Mechanical Inspectors to 54.4 percent for Housing and 57.3 percent for Electrical Inspectors. A large majority of the Plumbing and Gas, 70.5 percent, endorse this item as Important as do also 66.3 percent of the Non-Inspectors. (See Table 43 on page 48).

TABLE 41

SMALLER GROUPS IN EACH SESSION

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	67	23.1%	108	37.2%	82	28.3%	33	11.4%	290	47.9%
Housing	11	14.2%	33	42.8%	24	31.1%	9	11.6%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	7	13.7%	17	33.3%	19	37.2%	8	15.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	6	17.1%	13	37.1%	11	31.4%	5	14.2%	35	5.8%
Electrical	3	4.9%	15	24.5%	25	40.9%	18	29.5%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	17	18.5%	31	33.7%	28	30.4%	16	17.4%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	111	18.3%	217	35.8%	189	31.2%	89	14.7%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	94	18.3%	186	36.2%	161	31.3%	73	14.2%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	17	18.5%	31	33.7%	28	30.4%	16	17.4%	92	15.2%

TABLE 42

SESSIONS SCHEDULED ON NEW DESIGN TECHNIQUES

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	145	50.0%	97	33.5%	23	7.9%	25	8.6%	290	47.9%
Housing	17	22.0%	25	32.4%	27	35.0%	8	10.3%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	20	39.2%	16	31.3%	8	15.6%	7	13.7%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	23	65.7%	8	22.8%	2	5.7%	2	5.7%	35	5.8%
Electrical	16	26.2%	19	31.1%	9	14.7%	17	27.8%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	41	44.6%	20	21.7%	15	16.3%	16	17.4%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	262	43.2%	185	30.5%	84	13.7%	75	12.4%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	221	43.0%	165	32.1%	69	13.4%	59	11.5%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	41	44.6%	20	21.7%	15	16.3%	16	17.4%	92	15.2%

Historically, the Annual Institute is scheduled for three days and includes a number of concurrently scheduled topical sessions for specialty groups, and some general sessions. Therefore, a pool of items was written to explore the acceptability of the traditional format or to identify recommended changes. The statement preceding the items was:

> Please indicate how important the following items would be in your decision to attend the 1981 Institute.

The items and the respective table numbers in which the responses are shown were:

Table 43...A four-day Institute to include more sessions
Table 44...A two-day Institute in place of current three-day format
Table 45...Three or four Institutes during the year, each lasting one day only
Table 46...Evening sessions
Table 47... Scheduling the same Institute in the non-metropolitan areas of the state, closer to the residence of out-state inspectors.

Table 43: A four-day institute to include more sessions. There was wide variation in responses to this item. The largest proportion, 33.8 percent, endorsing this item as Very Important was the General Building Inspectors. By contrast, 11.4 percent of the Electrical Inspectors so endorsed it. With the exception of the General Building Inspectors, the largest proportions in each group indicated this item as Not Important or No Answer. The proportions for these Not Important and No Answer categories combined are: General Building -- 40.0 percent; Housing -- 50.5 percent; Plumbing and Gas -- 66.6 percent; Mechanical -- 51.3 percent; Electrical -- 78.6 percent; and Non-Inspectors -- 60.9 percent. (See Table 43 on page 50).

TABLE 43

A FOUR-DAY INSTITUTE TO INCLUDE MORE SESSIONS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	98	33.8%	76	26.2%	81	27.9%	35	12.1%	290	47.9%
Housing	17	22.0%	21	27.2%	33	42.8%	6	7.7%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	7	13.7%	10	19.6%	24	47.0%	10	19.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	9	25.7%	8	22.8%	10	28.5%	8	22.8%	35	5.8%
Electrical	7	11.4%	6	9.8%	29	47.5%	19	31.1%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	18	19.6%	18	19.6%	41	44.6%	15	16.3%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	156	25.7%	139	22.9%	218	36.0%	93	15.4%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	138	26.9%	121	23.5%	177	34.4%	78	15.2%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	18	19.6%	18	19.6%	41	44.6%	15	16.3%	92	15.2%

TABLE 44

A TWO-DAY INSTITUTE IN PLACE OF THE CURRENT THREE-DAY FORMAT

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	33	11.4%	63	21.7%	150	51.7%	44	15.2%	290	47.9%
Housing	15	19.4%	15	19.4%	38	49.3%	9	11.6%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	7	13.7%	11	21.5%	21	41.1%	12	23.5%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	7	20.0%	6	17.1%	15	42.8%	7	20.0%	35	5.8%
Electrical	8	13.1%	18	29.5%	19	31.1%	16	26.2%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	8	8.7%	16	17.4%	52	56.5%	16	17.4%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	78	12.9%	129	21.3%	295	48.7%	104	17.2%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	70	13.6%	113	22.0%	243	47.3%	88	17.1%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	8	8.7%	16	17.4%	52	56.5%	16	17.4%	92	15.2%

Table 44: A two-day institute in place of current three-day format. There is little endorsement of a two-day format in place of the traditional three-day period. More than half, 51.7 percent, of the General Building Inspectors say, Not Important, with an additional 15.2 percent not answering the question. In each group. the proportions not endorsing the item, that is indicating Not Important or not answering are the majority of all respondents. The details are summarized in the last two lines on Table 44, that is, for the combined specialty groups, 64.4 percent, and for the Non-Inspectors, 73.9 percent. (See Table 44 on page 50).

Table 45: Three or four institutes during the year, each lasting one day only. The majority of the respondents rejected the change to a number of one-day Institutes during the year. The proportion of respondents indicating Not Important was very similar in each group of the inspectors and the Non-Inspectors, with 44.5 percent -- General Building; 48.0 percent -- Housing; 43.1 percent -- Plumbing and Gas; 40.0 percent -- Mechanical; 31.1 percent -- Electrical; and 46.7 percent -- Non-Inspectors. These proportions responding Not Important added to the No Answer proportions account for a majority in each group. (See Table 45 on page 52).

Table 46: Evening sessions. The evening sessions are unpopular. Clear majorities indicated these as Not Important or No Answer. The proportions for these two categories combined were 74.5 percent for the General Building Inspectors; 81.7 percent for Housing; 94.0 percent -- Plumbing and Gas; 82.7 percent -- Mechanical; 76.9 percent -- Electrical; and 77.2 percent -- Non-Inspectors. (See Table 46 on page 52).

TABLE 45

THREE OR FOUR INSTITUTES DURING THE YEAR, EACH LASTING ONE DAY ONLY

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	71	24.5%	53	18.3%	129	44.5%	37	12.8%	290	47.9%
Housing	13	16.8%	16	20.7%	37	48.0%	11	14.2%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	12	23.5%	6	11.7%	22	43.1%	11	21.5%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	5	14.2%	10	28.5%	14	40.0%	6	17.1%	35	5.8%
Electrical	13	21.3%	15	24.5%	19	31.1%	14	22.9%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	16	17.4%	22	23.9%	43	46.7%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	130	21.5%	122	20.1%	264	43.6%	90	14.9%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	114	22.2%	100	19.5%	221	43.0%	79	15.4%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	16	17.4%	22	23.9%	43	46.7%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%

TABLE 46

EVENING SESSIONS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	24	8.3%	50	17.2%	171	59.0%	45	15.5%	290	47.9%
Housing	2	2.5%	12	15.5%	51	66.2%	12	15.5%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	3	5.8%	0	0.0%	37	72.5%	11	21.5%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	3	8.5%	3	8.5%	21	59.9%	8	22.8%	35	5.8%
Electrical	5	8.1%	9	14.7%	30	49.1%	17	27.8%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	1	1.1%	20	21.7%	56	60.9%	15	16.3%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	38	6.3%	94	15.5%	366	60.4%	108	17.8%	606	100.0%
Inspectors Only	37	7.2%	74	14.4%	310	60.3%	93	18.1%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	1	1.1%	20	21.7%	56	60.9%	15	16.3%	92	15.2%

Table 47: Scheduling same Institute in non-metro area of the state. Many inspectors indicated their primary working location as being in the metro area which is consistent with state demography. (See Background Characteristics, page 3.)

It is, therefore, not surprising to note that although substantial proportions, approximately 40 percent in most of the groups indicate this item as Very or Somewhat Important, the majority in each group endorse the change of location as Not Important or do not answer. The proportions for these two negative categories are: General Building -- 56.6 percent, Housing -- 54.4 percent; Plumbing and Gas -- 62.7 percent; Mechanical -- 77.1 percent; Electrical -- 52.4 percent; and Non-Inspectors -- 66.5 percent. (See Table 47 below.)

TABLE 47

SCHEDULING THE SAME INSTITUTE IN THE NON-METROPOLITAN AREAS OF THE STATE, CLOSER TO THE RESIDENCE OF OUT-STATE INSPECTORS

Specialty Group	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		No Answer		Total-All Specialties	
Inspectors:										
General Building	63	21.7%	63	21.7%	126	43.5%	38	13.1%	290	47.9%
Housing	16	20.7%	19	24.6%	32	41.5%	10	12.9%	77	12.7%
Plumbing and Gas	11	21.5%	8	15.6%	22	43.1%	10	19.6%	51	8.4%
Mechanical	2	5.7%	6	17.1%	20	57.1%	7	20.0%	35	5.8%
Electrical	21	34.4%	8	13.1%	19	31.1%	13	21.3%	61	10.1%
Non-Inspectors	17	18.5%	14	15.2%	50	54.4%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%
Total All Responses	130	21.5%	118	19.5%	269	44.4%	89	14.7%	606	84.8%
Inspectors Only	113	22.0%	104	20.2%	219	42.6%	78	15.2%	514	84.8%
Non-Inspectors	17	18.5%	14	15.2%	50	54.4%	11	12.0%	92	15.2%